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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT 1968

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

W. J. St. E.-G. Rhys, M.A., M.B., B.S., B.Sc., M.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

Mansel Hughes, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

NEW QUAY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman 1967/68	Chairman 1968/69
Councillor Walter Edwards	Councillor Richard Evans

The Council consists of nine members including the Chairman. All matters concerning the Public Health are considered by the whole Council.

Clerk of the Council: H. T. Clarke, Esq., M.R.A.C.,
Council Offices,
NEW QUAY,
Cardiganshire.

Telephone: New Quay 275

To the Chairman and Members of
New Quay Urban District Council.

PREFACE

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report of the Public Health Department for the year which ended on 31 December 1968.

The number of live births registered during the year was four, representing a decrease of four from the figure for the previous year. There was one registered stillbirth but no infants died before the first birthday. No woman died as a result of pregnancy, childbirth or abortion.

The number of registered deaths was twelve, a decrease of ten from the figure for 1967. Three people died of heart disease, three of cancer and one died of 'stroke'.

There were no unusual outbreaks of infectious disease during 1968. No new case of tuberculosis was notified and no person died of the disease. In order to trace all contacts of a notified case of tuberculosis, the Department works in conjunction with the local chest physician.

In 1965 a proposal to inquire into the alleged abuse of antibiotics in animals and poultry was made (Anderson and Lewis) and this proposal received the support of two editorials in the British Medical Journal during that year. Soon afterwards the Netherthorpe Committee representing the Medical Research Council and the Agricultural Research Council recommended that an inquiry should be made into the use of antibiotics in livestock, and this recommendation was accepted by the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Agriculture in 1967.

Professor M. M. Swann, F.R.S., the Principal and Vice-Chancellor of Edinburgh University was nominated as chairman of this review body whose terms of reference were "to obtain information about the present and prospective use

of antibiotics in animal husbandry and veterinary medicine, with particular reference to the phenomenon of infective drug resistence, to consider the implications for animal husbandry and also for human and animal health, and to make recommendations".

The recommendations of the Swann review body are awaited with great interest for they will be of the utmost importance in the field of human health. Especial significance will be attached as to whether or not the case for prohibiting the systemic administration of chloramphenicol, ampicillin and neomycin to livestock is upheld, since preservation of sensitivity to these antibiotics is vital to human health.

A more detailed account of the work of the Public Health Department, including a comprehensive section by the Public Health Inspector, will be found in the following pages.

References

Anderson, E. S. and Lewis, M. J. (1965) Nature (Lond.) 206, 579.
Brit.med.J.(1965) 1, 1325.
Brit.med.J.(1965) 2, 1260.

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At Gadeirydd ac Aelodau Cyngor Dosbarth
Trefol Cei Newydd

RHAGAIR

Pleser imi yw cyflwyno Adroddiad yr Adran Iechyd Cyhoeddus am y flwyddyn a ddaeth i ben ar 31 Rhagfyr 1968.

Cofrestrwyd pedwar o fabanod a anwyd yn fyw yn ystod y flwyddyn; pedwar yn llai na'r nifer am y flwyddyn flaenorol. Cofrestrwyd un marw-anedig ond ni bu farw un baban cyn cyrraedd un mlwydd oed. Ni bu farw un fenyw am ei bod yn feichiog, ac ni chafwyd un marwolaeth ar enedigaeth na thrwy erthyliad.

Cofrestrwyd deuddeg o farwolaethau; deg yn llai na'r flwyddyn cynt. Cyfrif clefyd y galon am dri o'r marwolaethau hyn, y cancr am dri a'r stroc am un.

Ni bu clefydau heintus anarferol yn ystod 1968. Ni chafwyd un achos newydd o'r ddarfodedigaeth a ni bu neb farw o'r clefyd hwn. Er mwyn dod o hyd i bersonnau sydd mewn perygl o gael y ddarfodedigaeth, oherwydd iddynt fod mewn cyffyrddiad uniongyrchol a'r achosion a hysbyswyd, y mae'r Adran mewn cysylltiad cyson a'r meddyg sy'n arbenigo ar y ddarfodedigaeth.

Yn 1965 cynigwyd gwneud ymchwiliad i'r honiad y rhoddid gormod o feddyginiaeth wrthfiotig i anifeiliaid a dofednod a chafodd y cynnig hwn gefnogaeth dwy erthygl olygyddol yn y Cylchgrawn Meddygol Prydeinig y flwyddyn honno. Yn fuan wedyn cymeradwyodd Pwyllgor Netherthorpe sy'n cynyrchioli y Cyngor Ymchwiliad Meddygol a'r Cyngor Ymchwiliad Amaethyddol y dylid gwneud ymchwiliad i'r defnydd a wneir o feddyginiaeth wrthfiotig i anifeiliaid stor a derbynwyd yr argymelliad hwn gan y Weinyddiaeth Iechyd a'r Weinyddiaeth Amaethyddiaeth yn 1967.

Enwebwyd yr Athro M. M. Swann, F.R.S., Prifathro ac Is-Canghellor Prifysgol Caeredin yn gadeirydd y Corff adolygiadol hwn gyda'r cyfarwyddiadau canlynol - "i gasglu gwybodaeth ynglyn a'r defnydd a wneir yn bresennol ac a

fwriedir ei wneud yn y dyfodol o'r feddyginiaeth wrthfiotig yn hwsmonaeth anifeiliaid a moddion milfeddygol gyda golwg arbennig ar ffenomen gwrthsafiad i gyffur sy'n cynnwys haint, i ystyried ymhlygiadau'r arferiad a all effeithio hwsmonaeth anifeiliaid, ac hefyd iechyd dyn ac anifail, ac i wneud argymellion".

Disgwylir yn eiddgar am argymellion y Pwyllgor hwn oherwydd ei ddylanwad ar astudeithiau meddygol. Rhoddir sylw arbennig i'w ddyfarniad ar y cwestiwn holl bwysig - a ddylid rhoddi 'chloramphenicol', 'ampicillin' a 'neomycin' i anifeiliaid yn gyson neu beidio. Beth bynnag, y mae diogelu gallu cyfansoddiad dyn i adweithio'n foddhaol i feddyginiaeth wrthfiotig yn hanfodol.

Rhoddir cyfrif manylach o waith yr Adran Iechyd Cyhoeddus yn cynnwys rhan a baratowyd gan yr Archwiliwr Iechyd Cyhoeddus yn y tudalennau canlynol.

Cyfarwyddiadau

Anderson, E.S. and Lewis, M. J. (1965) Nature (Lond.) 206,579
Brit.med.J.(1965) 1, 1325
Brit.med.J.(1965) 2, 1260

VITAL STATISTICS

	1966	1967	1968
1. LIVEBIRTHS			
Total	12	8	4
Leg: ..	11	8	3
Illeg: ..	1	0	1
Rate per 1,000 population (crude)	13.0	9.0	4.5
Rate per 1,000 population (adjusted)	20.7	14.3	7.16
Rate per 1,000 population England and Wales	17.7	17.2	16.9
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births ..	8.3	0	25
2. STILLBIRTHS			
Total	0	0	1
Leg: ..	0	0	1
Illeg: ..	0	0	0
Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths	0	0	200
Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths England and Wales	15.4	14.8	14.0
3. TOTAL LIVE AND STILLBIRTHS	12	8	5
4. PERI-NATAL DEATHS (Stillbirths plus early neo-natal deaths)			
Total	0	0	1
Leg: ..	0	0	1
Illeg: ..	0	0	0
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	0	0	200
5. EARLY NEO-NATAL DEATHS (deaths under one week)			
Total	0	0	0
Leg: ..	0	0	0
Illeg: ..	0	0	0
Rate per 1,000 total live births	0	0	0
6. NEO-NATAL DEATHS (deaths under four weeks)			
Total	0	0	0
Leg: ..	0	0	0
Illeg: ..	0	0	0
Rate per 1,000 total live births	0	0	0

	1966	1967	1968
7. INFANT DEATHS (deaths under one year)			
Total	0	0	0
Leg: ..	0	0	0
Illeg: ..	0	0	0
Rate per 1,000 total live births	0	0	0
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births ..	0	0	0
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births ..	0	0	0
8. MATERNAL DEATHS (including abortion)			
Number of deaths	0	0	0
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	0	0	0

DEATHS			
Total	25	22	12
Rate per 1,000 population (crude)	27.2	24.7	13.6
Rate per 1,000 population (adjusted)	15.2	13.8	7.3
Rate per 1,000 population England and Wales	11.7	11.2	11.9

Area comparability factor for births	1.59	1.59	1.59
Area comparability factor for deaths	0.56	0.56	0.54

POPULATION STATISTICS

Area (in acres) 281

Population (census 1961) 954

Population (Registrar General's Estimated Mid-Year Population for 1968 880

CAUSES OF DEATH

(Headings with no deaths allocated are omitted)

Causes of Death	Number of Deaths		
	Male	Female	Total
Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus	1	-	1
Leukaemia	-	1	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms	1	1	2
Anaemias	-	1	1
Ischaemic Heart Disease	2	1	3
Cerebrovascular Disease	-	1	1
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	-	1	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	-	1	1
All Other External Causes	-	1	1
Total	4	8	12

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following is a list of the notifications of infectious disease, other than tuberculosis, received during the year:-

Diphtheria	Nil
Dysentery (amoebic and bacillary)	Nil
Encephalitis	Nil
Erysipelas	Nil
Food Poisoning	Nil
Infective Jaundice	Nil
Measles	14
Meningococcal meningitis	Nil
Paratyphoid Fever	Nil
Pneumonia (acute primary and acute influenzal)	Nil
Poliomyelitis	Nil
Relapsing Fever	Nil
Scarlet Fever	1
Smallpox	Nil
Whooping Cough	Nil

TUBERCULOSIS

The following table shows the sex and age distribution of the new cases notified during the year.-

AGE GROUP	RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
5 - 14	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	-	-	-
25 - 44	-	-	-	-
45 - 64	-	-	-	-
65 +	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	-	-	-

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

These remain essentially the same as in previous years, and are under the control of the County Council.

SECTION 47 OF THE NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948

No action was required to be taken under this section during the year.

W. J. ST. E.-G. RHYS

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

I have pleasure in submitting my report for the year ending on 31 December 1968.

WATER SUPPLY

The Cardiganshire Water Board is responsible for the water supply for the whole of the district. The supply of water was reasonably plentiful throughout the year and the samples taken for bacteriological examination were all found to be satisfactory.

The whole of the district comprising approximately four hundred and seventy dwelling houses and a population of approximately nine hundred is supplied from the mains.

There are no public swimming baths in the district.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The sewerage system in the main, has functioned quite satisfactorily throughout the year. The system is by gravitation to a settling tank on the Dolau Beach and the resultant effluent is discharged into the sea.

No evidence of pollution was recorded during the year.

It should be appreciated that the sewerage system, which was designed for the town many years ago, cannot be expected to cope indefinitely with the demands placed on it particularly during the holiday season.

Difficulty was again experienced during the holiday period, when excessive pumping from sumps within caravan sites crowded with caravan dwellers, caused high discharge and surging in the public sewers and storm water relief overflows had to be brought into use when the streams into which they discharged carried very little water.

This problem was overcome, however, by the site operators being instructed to adjust their pumps, to pump a 'little and often'.

Closet Accommodation

Number of closets connected to the sewerage system	434
Number of closets connected to cesspools and septic tanks	26
Number of pail closets within the range of sewers not connected	Nil
Number of pail and earth closets	3

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse is collected by the Council employees and this service covers the whole area of the Urban District.

Refuse disposal takes place at Aberaeron Rural District Council's refuse tip at Rhydeinion, which is four to five miles from New Quay. The covering and control of the tip is carried out by the Rural District Council.

The collection of refuse during the holiday period presents the Council with their most time consuming problem. The twice weekly collection involves the whole of the labour force for the greater part of the week.

By far the greatest volume of refuse consists of waste paper and cardboard boxes and these items rapidly fill the collection vehicle, which then has to travel to the tip some four miles away.

The occupiers of the business premises have again been asked to co-operate and flatten all boxes to prevent voids, and this is having the desired effect.

Litter

Much is being done to try to make the public "litter conscious" and the provision of ample and more attractive litter bins might help towards this end.

Despite the publicity given to this failing on television and in the national press, members of the public continue to leave the beaches and quay side in a filthy condition, and this gives any resort a bad name - it is ironical that it is the very people who come to enjoy our clean beaches, are the ones who complain when they arrive on the beach next morning and find it littered with their own rubbish.

HOUSING INSPECTIONS

Number of houses inspected:

Under the Public Health Act 1936	12
Under the Housing for Improvements	9
Number of houses inspected after infectious diseases	Nil

Notices Served - Public Health Act:

Number of informal notices served	9
Number of informal notices complied with	9
Number of statutory notices served	Nil
Number of statutory notices complied with	Nil

Housing repairs and rents Act 1954 and Housing Act 1957:

1. Unfit houses closed or declared unfit .. .. Nil
2. Houses in which defects were remedied after informal action .. Nil

HOUSING ACT 1949, HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT 1954

Improvement Grants - Discretionary

Number of applications approved	Approved Expenditure
Nil	Nil

Approved Grants

Nil

Number of payments made	Amount Paid
Final 1	£400

Total Payments

£400

HOUSING PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT 1959

Improvement Grants - Standard

Applications received	Approved Grants
1	1
Number of payments made	**Total payments**
1	£111

RENTS ACT 1957

(i) Number of applications for certificates of disrepair ..... Nil
(ii) Number of decisions not to issue certificates ..... Nil
(iii) Number of decisions to issue certificates ..... Nil
(iv) Number of certificates of disrepair issued ..... Nil
(v) Number of applications by landlord for cancellation of certificate ..... Nil

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT

All types of premises were visited and where necessary advice was given and poison baiting was carried out. All infestations were treated by the Council's Rodent Operator. Fifteen treatments were carried out during the year in private dwellings. The refuse tip at Gilfachrhedd, although not now used, is continually kept under observation and baits laid when necessary.

THE CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT 1960

Number licensed caravan sites	5
Number of inspections of caravan sites	43

The five sites, with their maximum number of caravans are:-

1. Raymond Caravan Park	250	caravans
2. Traeth Gwyn Caravan Park	116	caravans
3. Neuadd Caravan Park	85	caravans
4. Rectory Field Caravan Park	20	caravans
5. Mindraeth Caravan Park	2	caravans
Total	473	caravans

The caravan sites are fairly well maintained. Two of the sites are self-contained in that shops and licensed clubs are available to the caravan-dwellers on the site concerned.

The caravan population at the height of the season is approximately 1,900, but taking into account sites which are within a mile radius of New Quay, approximately another 500 caravan pitches are to be found, giving a grand total of around 4,000. Many of these caravan-dwellers leave their pitches to visit New Quay and cause the public services to be extended to their utmost capacity.

Complaints received were dealt with promptly.

BURIAL AND CREMATION OF THE DEAD

National Assistance Act 1948 (Section 50)

Number of persons buried by the Authority .. .. Nil

Municipal Cemetery

Number of persons buried within the district	5
Number of persons buried from outside the district	2

The cemetery is under the care of Mr. Dan Lewis who supplied the above information.

It is hoped that a number of further improvements will be carried out at the Council's cemetery in the near future.

COUNCIL HOUSES

Number of Council Houses in the district 28
Number of Council Old People's Bungalows 6

These are all situated on an estate at "Cylch-y-Llan" and on the whole are excellently maintained.

Flats 2

MILK SUPPLY

Number of retailers within the district 2
Number of dairies .. .. Nil

Milk Supplies - Brucella Abortus

The Sampling of raw milk sold within the area for Brucella Abortus and antibiotics is done in conjunction with the sampling of the Aberaeron R.D.C.

Brucella Abortus - Not isolated
Antibiotics - No trace

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD PREMISES

Number of inspections of meat shops and vans 18
Number of inspections of restaurants and public houses 61
Number of inspections of premises where ice-cream is sold .. 27
Number of inspections of dairies .. .. Nil

The standard of food premises within the area, in general, remains high and regular inspections are made to ensure that these standards are maintained, but a note of caution must be given as the increase in popularity of the resort is beginning to stretch some food premises above the limits for which they were originally intended. These premises are being induced to expand their preparation and storage facilities in order that they are able to operate within safe Public Health limits.

UNSOUND FOOD

Nil

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT 1933

Licenses issued to slaughtermen .. .. Nil

There are no slaughterhouses in the district.

FOOD POISONING

There was no notified case of food poisoning during the year.

FACTORIES ACT 1937 AND 1948

Inspection during the year

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	3	6	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	4	10	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	7	16	-	-

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

One new premises was registered during the year, the total are now as follows:-

Offices	3
Retail shops, warehouses	5
Catering establishments open to the public	6
	14
Total number of inspections during the year	25

I should like to thank the Members of the Council and the staff for their assistance and co-operation during the year.

MANSEL HUGHES

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Public Health Department,
Pier Buildings,
NEW QUAY,
Cardiganshire.